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Armstrong Atlantic State University

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*e*ARMSTRONG

A newsletter for Armstrong Atlantic State University faculty & staff

JUNE 2006

AASU Receives National Award

Armstrong Atlantic's Center for Justice Administration received an award for "Exemplary Local Training Program" at the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) national conference held in May in Denver.

Wynn Sullivan, who directs the program, was on hand to receive the award from Bill Mercer, principal deputy attorney general for the U.S.

Fifteen awards were presented at the national conference. Out of 150 eligible PSN programs, only two were recognized for exemplary local training programs. In addition to Armstrong Atlantic, the Dallas Community Prosecution Team won an award for training.



Wynn Sullivan (left) and U.S. Attorney Lisa Godbey Wood

AASU is the training partner for the Southern District of Georgia's PSN Initiative, part of Project Ceasefire, which is aimed at reducing gun violence through more stringent enforcement of existing gun laws.

Armstrong Atlantic has trained 1,037 officers in a total of 14,024 student contact hours, in sessions contracted throughout the Southern District of Georgia. Training has included firearms identification, gun tracing, federal and state firearms statutes, seizure laws, characteristics of armed persons, crime scene and evidence management, strategic planning, presenting cases to federal prosecutors, and other firearms-related topics.

Mary Ellen Donatelli Named Outstanding Staff Member of the Year



Mary Ellen Donatelli, senior secretary for the Department of Early Childhood Education, was recognized as the 2006 Outstanding Staff Member of the Year during this year's Leadership Awards event. The award is given annually to recognize full-time hourly staff members for their valuable contributions to the university.

Donatelli is instrumental in the planning and preparation of the annual Week of the Young Child, serves as chair of the College of Education Hospitality Committee, and helps organize the Coastal Georgia Center for Economic Education summer workshops. She also serves on the Staff Orientation and Career Advancement Task Force, played an active role in the creation of the new employee welcome bags, and is a member of AASU's new employee welcome team.

AASU Faculty Service Awards



Elwin Tilson



Catherine Powell



Dick Nordquist



Nancy Remler

Four distinguished faculty members were recognized for their outstanding service to the university, the community, their academic disciplines, and to student life. Their awards were presented during the 2006 Leadership Awards event.

- Elwin Tilson, a professor of radiologic sciences, received the Alumni Award for Distinguished Faculty Service to the Academic Discipline.
- Catherine Powell, an associate professor of nursing, received the Award for Distinguished Faculty Service to the Community.
- Dick Nordquist, a professor of English and director of faculty development and general studies, received the Award for Distinguished Faculty Service to the University.
- Nancy Remler, an associate professor of English, was the recipient of the H. Dean Propst Award.

Alice Adams Awarded the President's Citation

Alice Adams, assistant professor of health sciences, received the President's Citation for outstanding service to the university during the Leadership Awards event held in April. Adams was honored for spearheading the campus-wide, on-going effort to provide assistance to Gulf Coast residents affected by Hurricane Katrina.



Alumni Association Elects Officers

The AASU Alumni Association elected officers for the coming academic year at its annual meeting.

Dodie Gay ('83), a consultant with Enviro-Assets LLC, was chosen as president. Spencer Hoynes ('70), a retired official with the Georgia Department of Labor, is the president-elect. Vice president is Kevin Fitzmaurice ('99, '02), with Georgia Power. Sandra Jones ('64, '98) was chosen as treasurer/recording secretary. Patty Parker ('92, '95), director of alumni relations at AASU, will serve as corresponding secretary.

Staff Advisory Council Election Results

Congratulations to the four newest members of the Staff Advisory Council who will serve two-year terms:

Academic Affairs Unit – Scott Gilreath and Brian Dawsey
President's Staff Unit – Peggy Witherow
Student Affairs Unit – Ginger Smith



Ben Lee Remembered

by Lane Library staff

With Ben Lee's death on May 20, 2006, Armstrong Atlantic lost a tenacious and savvy advocate for the best in library services, collections, and facilities. His friends across campus lost a good humored and energetic colleague, golfing buddy, and sometimes-sparring partner! The librarians lost a mentor, who nurtured librarians, staff, and students with a fatherly concern.

The profession lost a wise leader, with vision for library services and education, the will to make it happen, and the ability to take advantage of opportunity. But Ben would not stand for many fancy words of praise; he'd rather tell you about what was happening in the library. Or arrange a party! Forgive us, Ben, if we take a moment to remember you.

Ben Lee served Armstrong Atlantic for 25 years, first as head of technical services of the Lane Library and then, starting in January 1991, as library director. This was a period of growth for Armstrong and for the Lane Library under Ben's leadership. In 2006 he was named dean of library services, overseeing a 1.8 million dollar budget and a staff of 20.

Ben's career spanned 46 years and began as a student assistant at the University of Wisconsin libraries. A native of Korea, Ben received a bachelor's degree in International Politics from Yon Sei University in Seoul. When he immigrated to the United States, his sister Soong Yi, a librarian in the Skokie Public Library System, recommended the profession. Ben received his Master's of Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison during the late 1960s.

He remembered that time and place fondly, amused and intrigued by what must have been a new and very different culture. Ben had an immigrant's regard for our country's values and opportunities. His first long term professional experience was as assistant librarian and cataloger at the Cleveland State Community College in Tennessee. At about that time Ben married June, his college sweetheart from Seoul, and they settled together in Tennessee. They have a son, Eugene. It was from Tennessee that Ben headed south to Savannah and joined Armstrong State College in 1981.

Here are a few remembrances about Ben from the library family:

- Ben Lee was fond of using aphorisms to express management principles and life lessons he had learned. For example, over the course of many years of library service, he learned the truth of an adage that he frequently quoted: "Timing is everything." Administrators who deny a request for funding or other resources today may grant your request tomorrow—or, when the timing of the request is more propitious! Ben was an indefatigable advocate for the library, and he developed almost a sixth sense in his ability to discern when the timing was favorable. Lane Library was able to develop and advance in many areas because of his convictions, his advocacy, and his savvy.
- Ben's well known love of food might be the reason he frequently employed restaurant metaphors for library issues: "The menu must offer the full range of options, and speedy service; we are in the service business!" Technical services were the kitchen of the library. Perhaps Ben saw himself as the chef, overseeing preparations and exhorting the sous-chefs to serve up the library while it was hot!

- Ben Lee loved libraries!
- Ben positively influenced young people. He gave many young librarians their professional start. Ben mentored and encouraged librarians, library staff, and university undergrads contemplating the profession. Ben was also a strong supporter of Armstrong Atlantic's library media program and library instruction generally.
- Ben was the faculty advisor for the Rotaract Club and a member of Rotary. After his death, the Rotary contributed \$1,000 on his behalf to Rotary and named him a Paul Harris Fellow.
- Ben's constant desire for Lane Library to provide the best possible resources made him a master of the deal, especially when working with sales people. His staff sometimes marveled at the deals he struck and felt badly for the unfortunate salesman who somehow promised what he could barely deliver. And, of course a meal was on the offing to seal the deal.
- Ben took care of his staff as a caring, supportive, disciplined parent would. He saw the library as a family and encouraged us to take care of one another.
- I remember Ben was very big on family. When my husband was admitted to the hospital, Ben let me drop what I was doing and go to him. He also told me not to rush back, that I could stay there as long as needed. Many bosses would not have been so generous, and I will always be grateful to him for it.
- Ben would have been so excited to see the beautifully renovated Lane Library with a sea of new computers and filled with the library collections. That was Ben's dream and his work. He suspected that he might not get there with us, but the renovation of the current building and the planned expansion to a university level library facility for Armstrong was Ben Lee's Promised Land.

Graduate Students Back Literacy Center for Cuyler-Brownsville

Graduate education students from Patricia Coberly's spring semester Strategies and Resources class have gathered books, furniture, and other supplies to create the Family Literacy Center at St. Mary's Community Center. Coberly explained that she required actual implementation of a program, not just theory, in the class, and students chose to continue an ongoing tradition of assistance to St. Mary's Community Center.

The volunteers from AASU included faculty members Mary Ann Barbieri, mathematics; Kathy Bennett, institutional research; Joyce Bergin, Trish Coberly, and Mary Ann Sullivan, special and adult education; Maryellen Cosgrove and Marsha Moore, early childhood education; Veronica Golden, Elderhostel; Barbara Tanenbaum, vice president and dean of faculty's office; and David Wheeler, languages, literature & philosophy. The student volunteers were from the M.Ed. in Adult Education program: Lisa Jordan, James Harn, and Joseph Hodges, registrar's office/admissions; Dorothy Kempson and Brenda Logan, Liberty Center; and Jackie Lewis, financial aid.

A grant from the Skidaway Rotary Club funded a core of books, and a book donation drive on the Armstrong Atlantic campus added others.

The Cuyler-Brownsville Community, one of Savannah's poverty-plagued neighborhoods, is bounded by Anderson Street, East 40th Street, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and Highway 17.

Raffle Raises Money for the American Red Cross

The Residential Student Association raised \$880 for the American Red Cross throughout the month of April by selling raffle tickets for \$1. Supporters had the opportunity to win a \$200 gift card to the AASU Bookstore. Patrick Brennan, special and adult education, was the winner.

Bill Smith Honored

On May 15, a Loblolly Bay tree was planted in memory of Bill Smith, a faculty member in respiratory therapy, who passed away in 2003. Smith joined the faculty in 1982 and for the last 10 years of his tenure served as the department's director of clinical education. The tree and a commemorative plaque are located on the northeast corner of the Science Center.



National Fraternity Kappa Sigma Established at AASU

Armstrong Atlantic initiated its first membership class into the Kappa Sigma Fraternity in April. The ceremony marked completion of a two-year preparation to establish the fraternity and align it with Kappa Sigma's national standards.

Kappa Sigma bills itself as the largest fraternity in the world, with roots dating back to Italy in the early 1400s. The fraternity's American founding was at the campus of the University of Virginia in 1869. The AASU group is known as the Omicron Iota chapter.

Preston Futrell was recognized as the fraternity's president and model initiate at the initiation banquet.

Garden Club Council Names Two Scholarship Winners

The Garden Club Council of Chatham County has awarded scholarships to two students at Armstrong Atlantic. The recipients are Allison Walden of Hinesville, a junior majoring in visual arts, and James Jordan of Centerville, GA, a junior majoring in art. The Garden Club Council of Chatham County is a collection of garden clubs whose association goes back more than half a century. Each year, the council awards scholarships for students pursuing a course of study in subjects relating to botany, horticulture, landscaping, or fine arts at AASU. The council launched its scholarship program in 2003.

Welcome Aboard

Barry Davis, Jr., Plant Operation

Ann Fuller, Lane Library

Stacey Lauffer, Registrar/Admissions

Christina Middleton, Financial Services

Charles Monroe, Plant Operations

Kelley Riffe, Registrar/Admissions

Tasha White, Registrar/Admissions

Kelly Woodruff, Student Affairs

Retirement

Joe Buck, Student Affairs, 36 years of service

Deanna Cross, Adult Academic Services, 17 years of service

Jean Grice, Health Professions, 10 years of service

Larry Guillou, Biology, 35 years of service

Bill Megathlin, Assistant to the President, 33 years of service

Dennis Rauch, University Police, 17 years of service

Ken Relyea, Biology, 16 years of service

Chris Schuberth, Middle Grades & Secondary Education, 14 years of service

Michelle Sisson, Middle Grades & Secondary Education, 21 years of service

Service Awards

30 Years

Michael Jaynes

Michael Lariscy

Carol Massey

Randall Reese

Alponso Small

25 Years

Victoria Harrell

Robert Harris

Ben Lee

Dennis Murphy

20 Years

Dan Harrell

Lucinda Schultz

15 Years

Sue Cobb

Douglas Frazier

John Hobe

Selwyn Hollis

Herbert Katamba

Andreas Koth

Brett Larson

Bernard MacDougall

Catherine Powell

Camille Stern

Edward Strauser

Margaret Walworth

Gail Wynn

10 Years

Greg Anderson

Marilee Cain

Patricia Coberly

Joann Coleman

Bill Daugherty

John Delorme

Angela Fleming

Douglas George

Jennifer Incorvaia

Faye Kirschner

Pete Mastopoulos

Roger Miller

Andi Beth Mincer

Janice Powell

Ronnie Rushing

Joan Schwartz

Noot Tisdale

Events

June 1

First day of classes — Sessions A, B, & C

June 3

Savannah Art Association Workshop, sponsored by Art, Music & Theatre, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Fine Arts Annex, room 001

June 5-16

“Hear Our Voices” Youth Writing Camp, sponsored by The Coastal Georgia Writing Project at AASU, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. A two-week day camp for middle and high school students will feature writing workshops and learning excursions to nearby natural and historic settings. For more information, contact Pat West at 921.5692 or westpatr@mail.armstrong.edu. More details can be found at www.cgwp.armstrong.edu.

June 12-16

HOT! Higher Order Teaching Open Institute -Teachers K-16 will visit the Coastal Georgia Writing Project for professional learning activities, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Solms Hall, room 108.

June 12-23

Art, Music & Theatre presents Sixth Annual Visual and Performing Arts Camp for Children ages seven to thirteen in locations throughout the AASU Fine Arts Hall, 8:45 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, contact Mario Incorvaia at 927.5325 or incorvma@mail.armstrong.edu.

June 19-22, 26, 27 & 29

Advisement begins for fall 2006, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

June 23, 28, and 30

Advisement will be from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kudos

Richard J. Cebula and **Michael Toma**, economics, have published “Preliminary Evidence on the Allocation of the U.S. Army Deaths from Operation Iraqi Freedom,” *Atlantic Economic Journal* (March 2006): 3-14, and “Determinants of Geographic Differentials in the Voter Participation Rate,” *Atlantic Economic Journal* (March 2006): 33-40.

Sabitra Brush, chemistry & physics, has been awarded grants totaling over \$85,000 to support her efforts to enhance science education in Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools. These awards will enable her to offer courses, free of charge, to elementary and middle school science teachers who want to become more effective in the teaching of science.

Sabrina Hessinger, mathematics and PRISM, has been chosen for *The Business Report & Journal's* seventh annual “40 under 40” special issue. Along with 39 other young business leaders throughout the Savannah community, Hessinger was spotlighted in the March 13th issue.

Lee Williams, history, published “Leave the pulpit and go into the... school room: Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs and the Board of Missions for Freedmen in North and South Carolina, 1856-66,” in *Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South*, New Series, Volume 13, (Spring/Summer 2006): 89-104. Williams also presented “In the General Interest of Work: Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs and the Board of Mission for Freedmen in North and South Carolina,” at the Association of African American History, Research, and Preservation conference in Seattle.

David Roberts, plant operations, presented a training class, “Job Safety From Head to Toe,” for the City of Savannah, and Housing and Urban Development in May. The trainees were starting careers in the construction trade.

Cathy MacGowan, chemistry & physics, presented “Organizing and Running a Departmental Community Outreach Program in the Physical Sciences,” at the Enriching the Academic Experience of College Science Students conference in May at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Ola Lewis, College of Education, presented “Growing Your Own Leaders” with Karen Connelly, executive director, and Essie Johnson, retired executive director, Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education. They were co-presenters at the National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference in Chicago in April. Because of the interest in the topic, the presentation was selected to be a ticketed session.

Robin Jones, student activities, has earned an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership with a concentration in higher education from Georgia Southern University.

Karen Hollinger, languages, literature & philosophy, has had her third book, *The Actress: Hollywood Acting and the Female Star*, published by Routledge Press.

University system electronic news sources

Take advantage of the range of informational publications published online by the University System of Georgia (USG). The newest is an interactive monthly piece called *Linkages* that reports news of the university system and provides hot links to related source materials: www.usg.edu/linkages/.

For news of both the university system office and individual campuses, read the monthly *System Supplement*: www.edu/pubs/sys_supp/.

The submission deadline for the July issue of

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is June 15.

**Please send submissions to
news@mail.armstrong.edu**

*For more information contact Barry Ostrow in the Office of University Relations
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